

THE URBAN DISTRICT OF FORMBY

LIBRARY

INTERIM REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1945

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area in Acres - 7,308

Population (Census 1931) - 7,957 Registrar-General's estimate of population.

(middle 1945) - 8,421

Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931) - 1,955

Number of inhabited houses end of year 1945 according to Rate Book 2,485

Rateable Value '76,520.0.0d. Sum represented by a penny rate £328.0.0d

Vital Statistics

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live Births	Legitimate	115	59	56
	Illegitimate	8	2	6
	Total	123	61	62

Birth-rate per 1000 estimated population mid-1945 14.6

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Stillbirths.....	3	2	1

Rate per 1,000 total(live and still) births 23

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths	130	73	57

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 15.4

Deaths from puerperal causes

Deaths. Death rate per 1,000
Total(live & still) births

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other maternal causes	1	7.93
Total maternal mortality	1	7.93

Death rate of infants under one year of age

all infants per 1,000 live births 97

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 95

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 125

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 18

Deaths from Measles (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) Nil

Per 1,000 of Estimated Population

	<u>Live</u> <u>Birth rate.</u>	<u>Crude</u> <u>Death rate.</u>	<u>Death rate</u> <u>from</u> <u>Tuberculosis</u> <u>of Respiratory</u> <u>System</u>	<u>Death</u> <u>rate</u> <u>from</u> <u>Cancer</u>
Mean for 5 years 1940-1944.	15.5	12.5	0.40	1.86
Year 1944.	19.7	12.2	0.23	2.20
Year 1945	14.6	15.4	0.23	2.13
Increase or decrease in				
1945 on 5 years average				
1940-1944	-0.9	plus 2.9	-0.17	plus 6.93
Previous year	-5.1	plus 3.2	Nil	-0.07

	Maternal Mortality Rate.		Rate of Deaths
	per 1,000	per 1,000	under 1 year
	live births.	live & still	per 1,000
		births.	live births
Mean for 5 years 1940-1944	1.20	1.17	48
Year 1944	Nil	Nil	17
Year 1945	8.13	7.93	97
Increase or decrease in 1945			
on 5 years average 1940-1944.	plus 6.93	plus 6.76	plus 49
Previous year	plus 8.13	plus 7.93	plus 80

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

HOSPITALS

Smallpox and Other Infectious Diseases There is No Infectious Diseases Hospital in the district. Under the Local Government Act, 1929, Section 63 the Council have entered into a joint agreement between the Urban District Councils of Formby and Litherland on the one part and the Borough of Bootle on the other part. This agreement provides for the reservation of sixteen beds for infectious diseases other than smallpox at the Isolation Hospital, Linacre Lane, Bootle. In the case of smallpox the agreement provides for the reservation of one bed for each ten thousand of the population with a minimum of five beds at the Liverpool Corporation Smallpox Hospital, Sparrow Hall, Fazackerley. In both cases additional beds are to be provided subject to the necessary accommodation being available.

Details of charges under the agreement with Bootle Corporation for all Notifiable Diseases other than smallpox and for smallpox, are as follows-

Retaining Fee (Smallpox) £2 per thousand of the population with a minimum of £10. Fee paid for the year 1945 £16-0-0d

Maintenance in Hospital (Smallpox) £4.4.0. per week plus cost of conveyance at the rate of 2/6d per mile calculated according to the distance travelled after the ambulance leaves the Liverpool Corporation Depot until its return thereto.

Retaining Fee (Other Infectious Diseases) £90 per annum based upon the capital cost of Bootle Hospital less the capital cost of the Tuberculosis section.

Maintenance in Hospital is £2.2.0 per week, plus cost of conveyance as given below.

Removal of patients any week day except Saturday, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. and on Saturday between the hours of 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. £1.5.0 per journey

Removal of patients at any time other than stated above - £1.17.6 per journey.

Tuberculosis Administered by the County Council. Tuberculosis Dispensary, Ellesmere, Crosby Road North, Waterloo.

Maternity There is no Maternity Hospital in the district, but the Liverpool Hospitals are available.

Ambulance Facilities

(a) For infectious cases, Bootle Corporation Motor Ambulance

(b) For non-infectious cases - provided by Hospital or the Local Authority.

For accidents and sudden illness on the street - provided by the Local Authority.

The ambulance services for all purposes, infectious and non-infectious cases, also accidents, are very satisfactory.

Professional Nursing in the Home The Local Authority has not provided any Home Nursing. There are two District Nurses who work under the District Nursing Association. They are not subsidised by the Local Authority. The District Nurses' address is - 23, Halsall Lane, Formby.

Midwives The number of midwives practising in the district and on the County Register, 31-12-43, is four.

Public Assistance Institutions There are no Public Assistance Institutions situated in the District. The District of Formby is in the area provided for by the Lancashire County Council Public Assistance Institution and Infirmary, Ormskirk.

Nursing Homes There are two Nursing Homes in the District registered under the Public Health Act, 1936:-

Ivy Bank Nursing Home, Elson Road, Formby
Lynwood, Church Road, Formby

After the outbreak of War the above provisions had in some instances to be changed.

For a short period all notifiable infectious cases were removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Ormskirk. Later arrangements were made by the Bootle Corporation with whom the Council were under contract for cases to be received into the Liverpool Hospitals. Maintenance charges £3.3.0. per week plus cost of removal at the rate of 2/6d per mile were charged.

Due to the curtailment of hospital accommodation no diphtheria suspects were removed to hospital, only those cases where swabs had proved positive.

Scarlet Fever cases were, if possible, nursed in the home. These arrangements did not apply to evacuees. Evacuees were, in every instance, removed to hospital.

To deal with minor infectious cases among evacuees, a house known as Cairnie House, Victoria Road, Formby, was taken over and equipped for this purpose.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations

Diphtheria 14 Blood 2

Diphtheria Antitoxin A supply is maintained at the Local Chemists. The supply is very satisfactory and prompt use has been made in all cases.

IMMUNIZATION

All new residents at St. Peter's College and St. George's Industrial School are immunised against diphtheria. The Council have an immunization scheme for diphtheria in operation for all children.

Number Immunized during the year 1945

<u>Pre-School children</u>	<u>School children</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>0 - 4 years</u>	<u>5 - 14 years</u>	
103	137	240

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 119 cases of infectious (other than tuberculosis) diseases were notified. Civilian 105, Military 14 and 21 of these were removed to hospital. 7 by the Local Authority and 14 by the Military.

All contacts were kept under observation and no Scarlet Fever 'return cases' were discovered. The removal to hospital and all disinfection was carried out in a very efficient manner under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

During the year 51 houses and 1 school were disinfected, the methods employed being Formalin fumigation and spray. All articles (bedding, clothing, etc.,) exposed to infection are removed to and disinfected at the Council's Disinfecting Station in a Bacterol Disinfector.

Number of articles treated 992
Number of articles destroyed at request of owner 4
Disinfection on charge Houses 2 bedding etc. Number of
Articles 49.

DISINFESTATION

Disinfection has been carried out at 3 houses.
Method employed, Cimex Fumigation.

Cases of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during
the year 1945

		Total cases notified												Total deaths	Total cases removed to hospital
		Age periods years													
Total cases at all ages		Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and over.		
Scarlet Fever	15			1			2	1	11						2
Diphtheria	2				1		1								2
Measles	55	1	6	14	2	1	28		1	1		1			
Whooping Cough	22	10	9					1		2					
Pneumonia	15	1						3	3	1	4	1	2	4	
Cerebro-Spinal fever	4						1		1	1	1			1	3
Dysentery	1									1					
Malaria	1									1					
Erysipilas	4							1			3				
	119		12	15	15	3	1	32	6	16	7	8	2	2	5
Deaths in hospital---Cerebro-spinal fever - 1															

Included in the above figures the following were notified by the
Military.

Pneumonia 4 Scarlet Fever 8 Cerebro-spinal fever 1
malaria 1

All removed to hospital by the Military

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality During the year 1945

Age Periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
10			2					
15	1							
20				1			1	
25		1						
35	2							
45								
55					1	1		
65 & up- wards.		1						
	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	
	5		3		2		1	

CAUSES OF DEATH IN FORMBY URBAN DISTRICT 1945

<u>Causes of Death (Civilians only)</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<u>All causes</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>57</u>
Cerebro spinal fever		1
Tuberculosis Respiratory System	1	1
Other forms of tuberculosis		1
Syphilitic		1
Ac.inf.enceph.		1
Cancer of buc.cav.and oesoph (m) uterus (f).	2	1
Cancer all other sites	9	2
Diabetis	1	1
Intracranial vascular lesions	8	16
Heart Diseases	24	12
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	2
Bronchitis	4	-
Pneumonia	2	2
Other respiratory diseases	2	2
Nephritis	1	1
Maternal causes	-	1
Prem.birth	3	1
Con;mal;inj; infant disease	3	1
Suicide	2	1
Other violent causes	3	-
All other causes	4	7
Deaths of infants under 1 year.	Total	4
	Legitimate	3
	Illegitimate	1

WATER SUPPLY

The water supplied to the District is from the Southport and District Water Board. The sources of supply are four pumping stations with deep wells headings and boreholes sunk in the new red sandstone formation. There are three covered reservoirs which have a combined capacity of 6 million gallons. They are situated at Gorse Hill, Aughton.

The supply is constant and there is little possibility of contamination, and no shortage has been experienced. The water is hard and is classified as a Temporary Hard Water, i.e. the hardness can be removed by boiling. Being of a hard nature there is no fear of any plumbo-solvent action.

On the outskirts of the district 17 houses procure their water from 13 wells and 2 houses owned by the Railway Company have their supply brought twice a week in tanks.

Two samples from the mains and two samples from wells were submitted for Bacteriological examination.

Two samples from the mains and one from wells were submitted for Chemical Analysis.

Streams and Water Courses These have been cleansed where necessary by the owners or occupiers of adjoining lands. A certain amount of pollution takes place in the unserved area of the district due to percolation and improper discharge of sewage from cesspools and during the year it was found necessary to serve one Notice to prevent pollution.

Drainage and Sewage Careful attention is given to the drains and sewers, and every complaint is attended to without delay. The Sewage System is by gravitation and Septic Tank treatment. The outfall from the tanks discharges into the sea. The sewers are flushed regularly. All new drains are tested and existing drains are tested when necessary. Drains are flushed when found necessary.

The extension of sewers to the unserved areas of the District is of vital importance. The Council fully appreciate this necessity, and further extensions are contemplated in the near future.

In the sewered area 2 houses have had the drains connected to the sewers and their cesspools abolished.

Closet and Ashpit Accommodation There still exists in the District a number of Privy Middens, Pail Closets and Dry Ashpits. As these are situated in the unserved area no definite policy has been laid down for conversions, and each case is treated on its merits. All new property is provided with fresh W.Cs and Sanitary Ashbins made of galvanized iron and fitted with covers.

Privy Middens - Number of middens	24
Number of pail closets	269
Number of fresh water closets	2511
Number of waste water closets	Nil
Number of closets attached to these Middens	24
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	106
Number of moveable ashbins for refuse	2461

Conversions.

during year 1945

Number of Privy Closets:

To fresh W.Cs.	Nil
To waste W.Cs.	Nil
To pails, etc.	1

Number of Pail Closets:

To fresh W.Cs.	8
To waste W.Cs.	Nil

Number of Waste W.Cs.

To fresh W.Cs.	Nil
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Number of houses at which moveable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles

5

Public Cleansing The scavenging of the District is carried out by the Council's staff with the exception of pail closets and cesspools. Pail closets are emptied by contract, and cesspools by the owners.

All adopted streets are scavenged at least once per week.

Ashbins, ashpits and pail closets are emptied weekly. All ashbins and ashpit refuse is removed in covered motor vehicles to the Council's Destructor, which is situated in Altcar Lane, adjacent to the Sewage Works. The contents of pail closets are removed in a covered tank cart, horse drawn, and deposited on a tip away from the residential area.

SANITARY INSPECTION

Number of Premises visited	262
Defects or nuisances	Number discovered 49
	Number abated 43
Number of Notices served	Informed 49, Statutory 6

SCHOOLS

The Sanitary conditions of the schools is fairly satisfactory.

SHOPS ACT, 1934

Action taken in one instance to secure the cleansing of Sanitary Conveniences.

CAMPING SITES

No camps allowed during the year.

HOUSING

54 houses were inspected under the Housing and Public Health Acts. Notices served:- Informal 16, Formal 9.

OVERCROWDING

There is a certain amount of overcrowding chiefly due to the War. The chief causes are those who evacuated themselves and came to live with relatives or rent rooms and newly married couples who cannot find houses. A good many of these people who evacuated themselves cannot return due to the shortage of houses in their own District and others have no desire to return. There is a definite shortage of houses of the 950 to 1,000 Super ft. class. The minimum number required is approximately 300.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Cowsheds and Dairies All cowsheds etc., have been visited regularly and the general conditions are very fair.

Number of inspections 51

Number of samples submitted for Biological Test for Tuberculosis 9
Result - Positive, Nil. Negative, 9.

Number of samples submitted for Bacteriological Examination 7
Result - Satisfactory 7 Unsatisfactory Nil

Sediment Tests

Satisfactory 13

Unsatisfactory 3

Meat and other food All shops etc. have been visited regularly and the following foods were found unfit for human consumption and the necessary action taken. 29lbs sausage. 5 tins baked beans. 16 tins milk. 16 lbs butter. 7 tins sardines. 19 lbs Lemonade powder. 56 lbs carrots. 16 stone herrings. 106 lbs porridge oats. 36 lbs pressed beef.

FACTORY ACT 1937

Periodical inspections have been made. One Notice served to secure cleanliness.

THE RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT 1919 AND THE INFESTATION
ORDER, 1943, (SRO. NO. 680)

The operative appointed under the above Order discovered a number of infestations and the necessary action was taken. In the majority of cases the work of destruction was carried out by the Council's Operative with excellent results.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Child Welfare The Formby Child Welfare Centre is administered by the County Council in conjunction with a Local Ladies' Committee. The premises are situated at 25, Chapel Lane, and a clinic is held every Wednesday afternoon from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. for children under 5 years of age.

The Superintendent attends weekly and the Medical Officer fortnightly.

An ante-natal clinic is held on alternate Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

During the year a number of additional clinics were held for evacuees.

Medical Officer Dr. Elsie Catlow, Assistant County M.O.H.

Superintendent Nurse Murray, Health Visitor and School Nurse for the District.

Consultant Obstetrician Dr. Mackintosh Marshall

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Ladies' Committee Mrs. Brander, Hesketh Lodge, Brows Lane, Formby.

M.G. GARRY

L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., L.M.

Medical Officer of Health.

